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SOURCE Hirlap, No 98, 1949.

14 BILLION FORINTS FOR CONSTRUCTION

The Minister of Construction and Cooperatives has issued a statement on its construction program. The Ministry invested 110 million forints during the first year of the three-year plan, 273 million forints during the second year, and is spending 1,400,000 forints during 1949. These amounts will provide for 7,814 new structures, of which 1,293 will be located in greater Budapest. New state enterprises had to be organized to carry out this huge construction program, in conjunction with the existing 52 large construction companies. The building industry will be gradually mechanized during the first 3 years of the Five-Year Plan by the addition of machinery valued at 200 million forints.

During the Five-Year Plan, a total of 14 billion forints will be invested in construction. Of this, 5,500,000,000 forints will go for industrial construction, 2,500,000,000 for housing, and more than two billion for social and cultural buildings. Another two billion forints will be invested in direct agricultural construction.

To increase the capacity of the present-day building industry, 300 million forints will be appropriated for building-industry machinery, automatic hand tools, contractors' implements, and prefabrication workshops.

By 1950, the first half of the Centennial Stadium will be completed, providing a seating capacity for 40,000. The stadium's capacity will be increased to 70,000 during the course of the Five-Year Plan.

The castle at Buda will be reconstruction. The surveying has been going on for the past month.

A new national theater with a capacity of 1,200 will be constructed next to the Lane Bridge on the Buda side.

The quality of our tobacco will be improved because the new mechanized five-story tobacco warehouse which is to be constructed at Nyiregyhaz will have modern machinery. The country's second heavy industrial base will be developed at Borsod. The oil-producing districts of Nagykanizsa and Lasp will be greatly developed. A new workers' settlement will be built near the new ironworks at Mohacs.

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The development of the building industry under the Five-Year Plan creates a shortage of workers in the industry. There will be a need for 38,000 workers and 22,000 helpers. This shortage will be met by drawing on the ranks of the agricultural workers, who will be trained in schools. By the end of the Five-Year Plan, there will be a need for 1,400 construction engineers, 2,600 technicians, 1,200 plant managers, and 4,000 administrative workers. Considering our present labor force, the figures show that 700 construction engineers, 1,300 technicians, and 600 managers will have to be recruited to fill our requirements.

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